The Journal and Courier

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Notice.

We cannot accept anonymous or return rejected communications. In all cases the name of the writer will be required, not for publication, but as a guarante good faith.

According to a Liverpool paper, a young man was arrested recently in that city, charged with kissing a woman against her will, in the public highway. The prisoner pleaded that she was in bloomers, and that he mistook her for a long-lost brother. The magistrate discharged him, and it is said that the feminine demand for bicycles and bloomers cannot now be supplied by the local tradesmen.

The United States consul at Leipsic has sent a report to the State department saying that ploughs in Germany are operated more cheaply by the use of electricity than by that of steam. This may be a valuable suggestion to agriculturists in this country. Hardly any possible use for electrical energy can be pronounced incredible or even surprising nowadays, and if electric ploughing be commercially feasible in Germany it ought to be equally practicable in this country.

Guerrita, the foremost toreador of Spain, has just broken the record by taking part in three bullfights and killing ten bulls in one single day. At 7 o'clock in the morning he appeared with his cuadrilla in the ring at Cadiz, where he put an end to three bulls and assisted a matador in killing three more. He then went by train to Xeres, where he encountered eight bulls between 11 and 3 o'clock, killing four. After this he went on to Seville, entering the ring at 6 o'clock to face half a dozen fierce Moruve bulls, which killed nineteen horses before being dispatched themselves.

Lawyer Laurie T. Izlar, of Blackville, South Carolina, has a new plan for the prevention of lynching. He suggests the creation by law of an "emergency court," to have concurrent jurisdiction with the court of general sessions as to all crimes for which the death penalty is inflicted, and to proceed immediately to try such capital cases when for any reason the ordinary State tribunals are unable to do so. The "Charleston News and Courier" thinks well of Lawyer Izlar's plan and commends it to the favorable consideration of the coming constitutional convention.

In Staffordshire and Sharpshire, England, they have a most extraordinary cure for toothache. The sufferer watches a mole runway with a spade and traps and, as soon as he succeeds in capturing one of these reputed eyeless little animals, cuts off its paw and quickly applies it to the aching molar. In order to make the cure sure and effective, the paw must be amputated while the animal is yet alive; furthermore, if the aching tooth is on the right side of the jaw, a left handed mole paw must be used and vice versa. A similar toothache superstition exists in the Cape Verde islands and also on the Canaries.

Vermont isn't popular in fire insurance circles, notwithstanding the fact that it is by law a cold water State. A general advance of twenty per cent. in rates is now promulgated by the New England insurance exchange for that State. For several years now fire losses in Vermont have been exceptionally heavy. The State insurance commissioners say in their last report that the losses incurred by the companies amounted to nearly 94 per cent. of the total premiums received, leaving only 6 per cent. for expenses, taxes and profits. Naturally under these circumstances the outside companies have been withdrawing from the State or reducing their risks there, and now comes a large advance in rates.

The latest big log raft experiment on the Pacific coast has proved a great success, the first entire success in the history of such attempts. The raft was built on the Columbia river, and contained between six and seven million feet of lumber. It was made of piles so closely bound together that not a timber in the whole great bulk was movable. The raft was started from Oregon late in July, in tow of the steamer Mineola, and arrived in San Francisco on August 2, after as smooth a trip as though it had floated down a placid river instead of over a considerable stretch of the Pacific Ocean. It would have taken several score of ships to transport the lumber, and the owners of the raft have cleared something over $22,000 by the success of the experiment. Several similar rafts have been started on a similar trip, but while one or two have been a modified success, several of the largest have gone to pieces in stormy weather and been a total loss.

The need of more life-saving stations on the Maryland shore is being urged at Washington, where the claim is made that the beats of the life-savers near Ocean City are the longest of any on the Atlantic coast. Between Ocean City and Fenwick's light station the distance is about twelve miles. The coast for about a mile and a half at the midway place between the two is not patrolled at all. The life-savers from Ocean City go about five miles to the north, and those from Fenwick's light go about five miles to the south, both then retracing their steps. The nearest they can approach each other is about a mile and a half, the length of the unpatrolled strip. Severe wrecks, involving loss of life, have occurred at this point. The petitioners ask that a new station be established half way between Ocean City and Fenwick's light, and they also desire a station midway between Ocean City and North Beach. They say that the northbound vessels from Baltimore, Savannah and other ports in the South pass by Ocean City, as do also hundreds of south-bound vessels from New York, Boston and Philadelphia. They are satisfied, therefore, that the interests of the coast trade demand what they ask. The captains of the stations at and near Ocean City and the District Superintendent of the service who is in charge f that territory have united in the same petition.

GENTLEMANLY.

The chief professor and exponent of "the manly art" in this country is called "Gentleman Jim," or "Gentleman Jack," or something of that kind, and his enthusiastic admirers are fond of telling how superior he is to the ordinary run of prize-fighters. He has just given a striking exhibition of his gentlemanly quality a Pittsburg. He has arranged to fight another gentleman in October, and expects to make fifty or a hundred thousand dollars out of the operation. He will also be famous before the fight comes off and famous after it, unless he happens to get licked. He met the other gentleman at a hotel in Pittsburg. Both had been drinking. The gentleman walked up to the other gentleman and tried to pull his nose, at the same time saying, "You're trying to cap a sneak on me, ain't you?" Being prevented from pulling the other gentleman's nose by the efforts of judicious friends who were holding both him and the other gentleman he finally succeeded in spitting in the face of the other gentleman. None of the surrounding and restraining gentlemen was killed, though some of them were hurt and one of them was obliged to sit down, on account of a carafe that hit him in his manly and gentlemanly breast.

For the next two months the papers will have careful and graphic reports of all the doings of "Gentleman Jim," or "Gentleman Jack," and the other gentleman will also get his share of notice. Then the two gentlemen will have another gentlemanly fight if they think it will pay them, and the papers will go as wild over the gentlemanly performance as their readers will.

A WISE MAN.

William C. Whitney is a wise man. He doesn't want to be the nominee of the Democratic party for president. And yet his attitude toward the nomination is not due to any doubt of the condition and prospects of the Democratic party. "I think the condition of the Democratic party in the whole country to-day is remarkably strong," he says, "stronger than it has ever been since the war." When asked why he entertained this view, he replied that it was because for the first time since the war the party had a record to stand on. "It has done something," he continued. "The country was in 1892 in a deplorable condition. In spite of an extremely high tariff public revenues were failing, and the Republican party had proved itself absolutely irresponsible by its extravagance. The so-called prosperity of the country was not well distributed, it was not general prosperity. It was confined chiefly to industries monopolistic in character and tendency. They were fostered by a tariff which granted enormous profits in spots and at the same time stifled general competition and repressed individual enterprise."

Of course, of course. The Democratic party has indeed done something. It has a record. With that record in view, it is surprising that Mr. Whitney doesn't want to be nominated. But while it is surprising to find a man as wise as Mr. Whitney is there is no doubt about his wisdom. There are men who cannot be tempted to lead a great party, even when that party has such a record and such prospects as the Democratic party has. They wisely consider it better to be quiet and contented than to be president.

IN DANGER.

A recent canvass of 219 villages in eastern New York revealed the fact that 156 have practically no protection against fire, several are poorly protected and only 53 can boast of adequate protection. This state of affairs is about the same as will be found to exist in nearly all the smaller towns and villages in the State, and through New England as well. A recent canvass of the four western counties of Massachusetts showed a lack of protection quite as serious as that in the New York villages, and it has been remarked, moreover, that repeated warnings in the shape of costly conflagrations have made little difference in the conditions. A typical example is given in the report of a village of 2,000 inhabitants in which are several churches, fine schoolhouses, two large factories, and half a dozen smaller mills, and a bank. The report reads as follows: This village to-day is practically without protection from fire. There were in existence a hook-and-ladder company, an engine company and two hose companies, but the first will soon disband, and the engine company, owing to alleged ill-treatment from the village authorities, has notified them that they will in future act independently, and go to fires or not, as they see fit. This leaves two hose companies to fight a fire. The village owns a hand engine of uncertain age and make, which is of no use, as it will not take suction unless continually primed, and then will not throw a stream over thirty feet.

Heaven and the fire insurance companies know that the fire losses in this country are large enough, but the wonder is that they are not much larger than they are.

FASHION NOTES.

Worth Three Season's Wear to a Growing Girl.

The girl of eleven or twelve is at a hard age to dress, for she is no longer of a size that permits a nursery rig, and the spare, long armed figure offers little invitation to the artistic eye. To the puzzled mother of such a miss here is a coat that will be very satisfactory. It is made of rose pink and green glace silk, having a square yoke to which the wide skirt attached. The garment is loose at the waist front and back, over the yoke and hiding it is set a wide sailor collar that sets out well over the full soft sleeves, and cuffs to match finish the sleeves, cuffs and collar being edged

with a pleated ruffle. All is of the same goods. The garment closes single breasted in front, the edges being brought together by a pair of straps that button over, and the edges and bottom of the coat are finished with looped green silk soutache braid. Such a coat sets warmly over any dress, and is almost as pretty worn open as shut. Besides, the model has the advantage of meeting the wearer's constant growth at this upshooting age, for its looseness will accommodate her at least three seasons, and the sleeves pushed up into very generous puffs can by lengthening of the lining be made longer, at least twice, without spoiling the effect.

Among the stylish outer garments made for matured wearers are some stunning little jackets cut very short and with an extreme box effect in front, the garment when fastened hanging perfectly flat and as wide all the way down as the widest point across the bust line. They are especially designed for wear over the elaborate fronts now added to all dresses, and when the under sleeve is of some of the soft and drooping effects and in material that is not to be hurt by passing through the arm-hole of the jacket, this little garment offers a pleasant change.

FLORETTE.

REAL.

Starks—Isn't hunger a terrible reality? Sparks—No; it is merely a fad at our club. Thirst is the only reality.—New York World.

"Sometimes," said Uncle Eben, "de tremenjus se'f-esteem dat er man gits am intiahly due ter de fack dat he am er bad jedge ob character."—Washington Star.

"The curious thing about my business," said the mosquito, alighting softly upon the nose of the sleeping victim, "is that it's more fun to go to work than it is to stay to hum."—Seymour Democrat.

Vistor—What are you crying about, my little man? Little Willie—All my brothers hez got a vacation and I haint got none. Visitor—Why, that's too bad. How is that? Willie (between sobs)—I—don't go—to school yet.—Life.

At a Pawnbroker's.—"I'll take that pair of gold earrings you have in the window marked four-and-six. And would you pierce my ears for me?" "Certainly, ma'am. William bring me those bagpipes out of the back shop."—Judy.

"Why did she marry Fiddleback?" "Because she was in love with another man, and the man was in love with another girl, and the girl was in love with Fiddleback. It was the only way she could get even with the other girl, you see?"—Life.

A little girl whose parents recently moved to another city, and who is now enjoying her first experience in living in a block, thus described it in a letter to another child: "This is a very queer place. Next door is fastened on our house."—The Evangelist.

There was a rich Miss Cholmondeley
Who was not remarkably cholmondeley;
She had as many beaux
As fingers and teaux.
But, really, she was so holmondeley
That none of them would propeaux.
—Exchange.

Apropos of dialect dictionaries, a good story is told of the author of a glossary of Sussex words. A certain premier visited a Sussex village. "That," said one rustic to another, pointing to the great man—"that is the prime minister." "Prime minister," quoth the other. "I don't think much of him. Why, our minister is primer than what he is."—Household Words.

"Owing to your not having screens in your car-windows," said the traveler, "I got a cinder in my eye the other day, and it has cost me $10 to get it out. I want to know what you propose to do about it." "Nothing, my dear sir," said the railroad official. "We have no use for the cinder, and you are perfectly welcome to it. On a strict construction of facts you did go off with our property—the cinder, of course, was not yours—but we do not care to make trouble for you in so small a matter. Pray do not give the incident a moment's thought."—Harper's Bazar.

THE FLEA AND THE ACTRESS.

No Wonder That Mudjeska's Face Wore a Set and Stony Expression.

[From the San Francisco Call.]

Two fair actresses, recent arrivals from the East, were conversing in a cafe on Powell street with the careless ease of their "profesh." Their comments were distinct and audible to the occupants of an adjoining table.

They were chtting about a sentimental scene in which both had appeared on the previous night.

"And just at that moment when he pressed my hand," said one, "and I was supposed to answer with a sob, a flea—oh, such a biter!—began to torture me between the shoulders. It was awful—simply awful. I could not remember my lines. I could not make the sobs come. All that I could think about was that horrid flea. I whispered to him, 'Put your arm around me quick.' And he thought I was fainting, and put his arm behind my waist and whispered, 'What is the matter with you, and why are you making such a horrid face? Are you ill?' What could I say? Nothing, of course, but fell back against a chair, and fortunately, oh, how fortunately, hit it with my shoulder blade, just where that flea was. Then I swung to and fro as if in great mental agony, and thus got in a little scratching. It was just heavenly, and did not spoil the scene a bit. When I went off the stage I had my maid go over the place where that flea had bitten me with a hand brush. She said there was a spot there as big as a dollar."

"Modjeska told me," said the other, "that once at the California in the balcony scene in Juliet, when she was extending both hands and saying 'Romeo, Romeo, where art thou, Romeo?' she got a nip in the ankle that almost made her cry out. She could not stop. It would have spoiled the scene, and for the minute she had to suffer. One of the critics remarked in his paper next day that during the scene Mme. Modjeska's face wore a set and stony expression. And no wonder, poor lady!"

"When May Muir, who is very susceptible to fleas, is attacked," resumed the other, "she gets up and begins to dance. She can twist about and scratch anywhere while the dance is going on, and nobody notices her. Clara Morris told me that in the dying scene in 'Camille' a flea fastened on to her so viciously that if she had not reached back with her fan and dislodged it she could not have died with any decency. San Francisco is an awful place for fleas."

"Awful, awful!" coincided her friend, as she settled with the waiter.

Kindergarten Teaching.

"Tommy is five years old to-day, and so I have brought him to you, teacher. I'll be glad to have him in school, for he plagues his little sister and plays in the street all the time. Now, Tommy, be a good boy so teacher won't whip you."

This is the formula, which, with variations, greets the primary teacher so many times. And Tommy, poor little awkward, shy, self-conscious, frightened Tommy, fearing from the depths of his soul the teacher's whip, which has been metaphorically held over his head so many times, and which exists only in the imagination of his parents, shrinks into a seat. It will be weeks before his confidence is won, and, until his timid self-consciousness is overcome he can gain nothing from the teacher's instruction. Then she finds what a narrow outlook his has been. He brings her a faded pansy from the yard and says, "Do you know what kind of a tree this grew on?" Or he produces a stone from his pocket and announces that it grew in his garden. His school life is awakening his interest in the world around him, and now he wishes to know the why, whence and whither of things. With fifty children in her care, and the scheme of work to be accomplished in the first year ever before her eyes, his teacher does her best to gratify his awakening mind. But the time is so limited and the requirements so great that each one of the fifty cannot be given the individual attention that he needs. Over and over again we hear the primary teacher saying, "Oh, how I wish that my children might have had Kindergarten training."

We often hear it said that the Kindergarten is only a place for play, but underlying this play there is a world of meaning. Through the spontaneous, yet directed, play, the child learns to invent, construct, discover, investigate. He is led to a thoughtful consideration of other's rights, and he forms a habit of voluntary right action in little things. Is not this alone of inestimable value? Is it not the most important lesson to be learned by all citizens of our republic?

Passing by the ethical side, let us consider the practical teaching of the Kindergarten. It takes the child, whose only play-ground is the street, who has no conception of obedience, whose one principle of action is that "might makes right," and what does it do for him? It develops a spirit of law and order. It gives him a sympathetic knowledge of animals, and of the occupations of men. Plant life is also carefully observed. Birds and flowers are not every day affairs to many of our children.

Manual training, about which so much is said now-a-days, has always held a prominent place in the Kindergarten. Little fingers are trained to dexterity by the occupation, and later on, writing presents but little difficulty to the well-trained muscles. It is almost painful to watch the efforts of the untrained child to hold his pencil during the first writing lesson, while the Kindergarten child guides his with perfect ease. This ease of doing is what characterizes the Kindergarten child. His manual training has been an excellent preparation for drawing and writing. His study and classification of form enables him to easily remember and recognize forms of words, so that reading presents but little difficulty to him. Many of the occupations involve work with numbers, so his mind is not an entire blank in that direction. His interest in nature study has been awakened, and the primary teacher can easily guide it along the best paths. His happy life in the Kindergarten has led him to expect an equally happy life in the primary school, so he is ready to apply himself cheerfully to whatever work may be presented him.

It is an acknowledged fact that the Kindergarten child learns more readily and covers more ground in a given time than a child who has not had the training. Looking at it from an utilitarian standpoint, it would seem that the Kindergarten is good inasmuch as it saves time.

When we consider the child's needs, and see how fully the Kindergarten satisfies them, it would seem that we could not rest till opportunity for Kindergarten training be provided for every child.

I have in mind a family of Italians, consisting of the parents and four children. They live in two rooms. The oldest girl, aged five, is in the lowest primary room at school. Knowing little of our language, less of obedience, and nothing of cleanliness, she was not ready for regular school work. So far as possible she has received the training she most needed. She is now a loving, obedient little girl, who runs to meet her teacher nearly every day, exclaiming, "See how clean I am." But in regard to reading and number, she is not ready for the next room. How much the Kindergarten would have done for her. The little brothers play in the street. The other day one of them ran in front of a horse and the driver swore at him. It won't be long before the oath will me repeated. Must that be their education till they are five? Listen to Professor Payne's translation of the object and purpose of the Kindergarten. To take the oversight of children before they are ready for school life, and exert an influence over their whole being in correspondence with their nature, to employ the awakening mind, to make them acquainted with the world of nature and of men, to guide their hearts and souls in the right direction, to lead them to the origin of all life, and to union with Him. MARY R. ATWATER.